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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Applicant:

Carlos VONDERWALDE et al

Serial No.: 10/749,105

Filed: December 29, 2003

For: Stent with Cover Connectors

Examiner: Uyen T. Ho

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: